

GREEN POWER News

WAPA's Renewable Resources Program covering
green power, reports, studies and funding

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to the *Green Power News Update*. This is a summary of the stories that ran during **July 2017**. New stories are added throughout the month to make sure you always know what is happening in our fast-changing industry. Check back often to see what's new!

Individuals or agencies sending press releases quoted here are entirely responsible for the accuracy of their information.

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Green Power

Green Power Partnership update for July 2017

Issue 51, July 27, 2017

Green Power Partnership (GPP) Program Updates are published monthly and provide the latest news and updates on the Partnership.

- Updated Top Partner Rankings
- New Partners Promote Green Power & EPA Partnership
- Partner Spotlight: Amphitheater Public Schools
- Photo of the Month: Intel's Solar Carport
- IREC's Shared Renewables Scorecard
- Renewable Energy Markets Conference – Early Bird Registration Through August 14
- NREL Releases 2016 Rankings for Top 10 Utility Green Pricing Programs
- Center for Resource Solutions Webinar Recap: Overview of Updates to the Green-e Energy National Standard
- Clean Energy States Alliance RPS Webinar Recap: When Renewable Portfolio Standards Max Out

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 7/27/17

NREL Brings Midmarket Solar PV Technical Assistance to 36 Universities and Colleges

NREL has offered no-cost technical assistance to American universities seeking to go solar. The program, in support of the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot initiative, is designed to increase the deployment of mid-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at universities, engage stakeholders to develop deployment solutions, and empower decision makers.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/2/17

DGIC hosts plug-and-play solar webinar

**July 19
12 PM MT**

A free webinar on the topic of plug-and-play solar will be presented by the Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative July 19.

To date, the solar interconnection process has involved a narrowly defined set of equipment, installed by professionals in a specific way. However, new technologies may radically simplify the construction, wiring and interconnection of these systems. Learn how these new

"plug-and-play" technologies and techniques could deliver equipment and labor cost savings, require changes to interconnection standards and procedures and even reduce utility effort needed for analysis and inspection.

Stay tuned to the [DGIC website](#) for more information on our webinar planned for September on aggregation of distributed energy resources.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 7/7/17

Nevada's New Solar Law Is About Much More Than Net Metering

Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval signed Assembly Bill 405 into law on Thursday to the cheers of solar companies and advocates. AB 405 reinstates net metering for rooftop solar customers in Nevada, after utility regulators eliminated the policy in December 2015, throwing the Silver State's solar market into disarray.

Because the policy change was applied retroactively, it triggered enormous public outcry, and the steep new fees effectively put a freeze on new rooftop solar installations. Nevada saw a 32 percent decline in solar jobs last year after large residential installers chose to pull out of the state. But with the new law now in place, Tesla, Sunrun and Vivint Solar said they plan to resume sales immediately.

Source: GreenTech Media, 6/16/17

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Reports and Studies

New Berkeley Lab annual report on state RPS policies

Berkeley Lab has released *U.S. Renewables Portfolio Standards: 2017 Annual Status Report*, an annual report by Berkeley Lab reviewing key trends in state renewables portfolio standards (RPS).

This annual update, which is published in slide-deck form, builds on Berkeley Lab's ongoing efforts to track and analyze state RPS policies. Among other topics, it describes recent legislative revisions, key policy design features, past and projected impacts on renewables development, compliance trends, and costs. The 2017 edition of the report presents historical data through year-end 2016 and projections through 2030. The report is published along with several data files that include Berkeley Lab's RPS demand projections and historical compliance data.

Source: Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, 7/24/17

New eLab Report and Webinar - The Role of Pilots and Demonstrations in Reinventing the Utility Business Model

As part of Rocky Mountain Institute's Electricity Innovation Lab, RMI partnered with three leading utilities—Arizona Public Service (APS), Avista Utilities, and Con Edison—to explore best practices for utility innovation and the design, execution, and evaluation of utility pilot

and demonstration projects. Industry stakeholders representing regulatory bodies, utilities, technology providers and advocates gave broad input on what works well, what does not and how to improve project results.

The new report, *Pathways for Innovation: The Role of Pilots and Demonstrations in Reinventing the Utility Business Model*, provides recommendations for utilities, regulators, and DER providers, centered around five primary themes that emerged when researchers investigated the state of utility demonstration programs in the U.S.

Download the report and [join RMI for a webinar](#) Wednesday, July 26, at 11:00 am Mountain Time to learn more.

Source: Rocky Mountain Institute, 7/25/17

Updating State Utility Interconnection Rules for Improved Distribution System Modeling and Advanced Inverter Functions

This research paper briefly summarizes the current status of interconnection rules and reviews the many changes now being developed within the IEEE and Underwriters Laboratory (UL) standards working groups, as well as the various screening methods used for evaluating interconnection applications that states and utilities have recently updated.

The paper also reviews several practices for facilitating safe and reliable interconnections that are already working well in some jurisdictions, and that could be readily adopted by other states and utilities.

Source: The National Regulatory Research Institute, 7/15/17

NREL releases new solar tools for midsized projects

Prospective solar customers interested in projects smaller than 2 megawatts now have new resources to help them make sound decisions that are right for their circumstances.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory has launched a website based on ***State Solar Policy Resource: A State-by-State Policy Guide for Midsized Solar Customers***. The guide equips prospective solar customers with the tools necessary to understand and use the solar policies of their state for midmarket solar projects. Midmarket projects are behind-the-meter PV systems with a generation capacity between 50 kilowatts and 2 megawatts.

This inventory serves as an online and up-to-date version of the report's state-by-state summaries. Each state's webpage highlights policy gaps and opportunities in that state's policies that either inhibit or enable midmarket projects.

Also, a new fact sheet, ***Sustainability Actions in Higher Education***, explains how solar and other renewable purchasing options can fit into campus sustainability planning. This fact sheet reviews solar pricing trends (both over time and regionally), provides resources for evaluating solar, and compares solar to other sustainability actions, such as efficiency investments and renewable purchasing.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 7/12/17

CESA posts presentation from renewable portfolio standard webinar

Many state renewable portfolio standard (RPS) policies will reach their peak requirement over the next few years. This webinar explores what could happen to state RPSs when they max out, and what options the states have when, and if, they begin to plan for the end of RPS in their states.

This webinar draws on a new RPS Collaborative report, ***When Renewable Portfolio Standards Max Out***. In this webinar, author Ed Holt presented the report's key findings. Warren Leon, executive director of CESA, hosted the webinar.

This webinar was presented by Clean Energy States Alliance for the RPS Collaborative.

Source: Clean Energy States Alliance, 7/12/17

Webinars on the Latest Wind-Wildlife Research and Tools

The American Wind Wildlife Institute hosts regular NWCC webinars on the latest research and tools related to the interactions of wind energy, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. To receive notifications about upcoming webinars, please **[sign up for the NWCC email list](#)**.

If you are interested in sharing your work on a webinar, please contact **Paige Johnson**.

Source: National Wind Coordinating Collaborative, 7/7/17

CEC launches clean energy tracking web page

The California Energy Commission's Tracking Progress webpage provides sector-specific summaries of California's progress toward a cleaner energy future. An update on Energy Efficiency is now available. This also incorporates an update on the California Clean Energy Jobs Act: Prop 39 which had previously been reported on separately in the Tracking Progress page.

Source: California Energy Commission, 7/5/17

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Funding

Grant Opportunity: Photovoltaics (PV) Innovation Roadmap

Deadline: July 31, 2017

The purpose of this RFI is to solicit feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on issues related to PV technology pathways in order to inform SunShot's strategic planning. We greatly appreciate your time and contribution to enhance the relevance and timeliness of federally funded research. This is solely a request for information and not a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). EERE is not accepting applications. Please note that all submission must be submitted to the **PVRD@ee.doe.gov** in order to be accepted.

Source: Grants.gov, 6/27/17

About \$330M left in New Clean Renewable Energy Bond program

About \$329.7 million of New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds can still be allocated to states, localities and other users, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

The unused allocations stand at \$150.3 million for governmental bodies and \$179.36 million for cooperative electric companies, the IRS stated in its latest update published on July 3.

The overall program was authorized for \$2.4 billion in bonding authority.

One third of the \$2.4 billion New CREBs program was authorized for use by public power companies, but unlike governmental bodies and electric cooperatives they faced a deadline to apply.

Source: Council of Development Finance Agencies, 7/10/17

Funding available for building tribal energy development capacity

Deadline: Oct. 9, 2017

The Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs for the Department of the Interior, through the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Division of Energy and Mineral Development is soliciting grant proposals from federally recognized Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, regional or village corporations, tribal organizations, and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations to build tribal capacity for energy resource development or management.

For this program, capacity building refers to developing organizational structures, business entity structures, or developing or enhancing regulatory functions, all related to tribal energy development for the purpose of strengthening tribal capacity for development and management of energy projects.

See the FOA.

Source: Van Ness Feldman, 7/11/17

RFI: Photovoltaics Innovation Roadmap

Applications Due: July 31, 2017

The purpose of this request for information is to solicit feedback from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and other stakeholders on issues related to PV technology pathways in order to inform SunShot's strategic planning.

See the RFI.

Source: Van Ness Feldman, 7/11/17

Proposals for improving undergraduate STEM education requested

Applications Due: Oct. 10, 2017

Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Pathways into Geoscience invites proposals that specifically address the current needs and opportunities related to undergraduate education within the geosciences community. The primary goal of the IUSE: GEOPATHS funding opportunity is to increase the number of undergraduate students interested in pursuing undergraduate degrees and/or post-graduate degrees in geoscience through the design and testing of novel approaches for engaging students in authentic, career-relevant experiences in geoscience. In order to broaden participation in the geosciences, engaging undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented groups or from non-geoscience degree programs is a priority.

The IUSE: GEOPATHS solicitation features two funding tracks:

1. Engaging students in the geosciences through extra-curricular experiences and training activities (GEOPATHS-EXTRA), and
2. Improving pathways into the geosciences through institutional collaborations and transfer (GEOPATHS-IMPACT).

See the FOA.

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$5 million

Source: Van Ness Feldman, 7/11/17

Find more [funding sources](#).